

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Sub 1. (currently amended) Male connector (1) for a guide wire (2), ~~which the~~ male connector (1) ~~comprises~~ comprising a core wire (3), a plurality of conductive members (4) spaced apart longitudinally along said core wire (3), a plurality of conductors (5) disposed along the core wire (3), each of the conductors (5) being connected to a respective conductive member (4), ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the core wire (3) has such a shape that at least one longitudinal cavity is provided inside the male connector (1), ~~which the~~ longitudinal cavity remains being adapted to remain substantially intact when the male connector (1) is bent, thereby protecting the conductors (5), which are disposed in said cavity, from being damaged if the male connector (1) is bent.

B 2. (currently amended) The male connector (1) according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the core wire (3) has a D-shaped cross section, ~~thereby providing and wherein~~ said cavity is provided between ~~the an~~ inner surface of the cylindrical conductive members (4) and the flat part of D-shaped core wire (3).

3. (currently amended) The male connector according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ a continuous insulating material (6) is disposed between the conductive members (4) and the core wire (3), with a minimum of insulating material (6) being provided between the curved part of the D-shaped core wire (3) and the inner surface of the conductive members (4).

4. (currently amended) The male connector (1) according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ said cavity is provided by a longitudinal recess in the mantle surface of the core wire (3).

5. (currently amended) The male connector (1) according to claim 1 ~~characterized in that wherein~~ several cavities are provided by longitudinal recesses in the mantle surface of the core wire (3), and ~~that wherein~~ each conductor (5) is disposed in a separate recess.

6. (currently amended) The male connector (1) according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ several cavities are provided by longitudinal recesses in the mantle surface of the core wire (3), and ~~that wherein~~ each recess accommodates at least one conductor (5).

7. (currently amended) The male connector (1) according to claim 4, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ a continuous insulating material (6) is disposed between the conductive members (4) and the core wire (3), with a minimum of insulating material (6) being provided between the cylindrical part of the core wire (3) and ~~the an~~ inner surface of the cylindrical conductive members (4).

8. (currently amended) The male connector (1) according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ said cavity is provided by a longitudinal hole in the core wire (3).

9. (currently amended) The male connector (1) according to claim 8, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ a continuous insulating material (6) is disposed between the conductive members (4) and the core wire (3).

Bl 10. (currently amended) The male connector (1) according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ at least one of the conductors (5) is connected to ~~the a~~ proximal end of the corresponding conductive member (4).

11. (currently amended) The male connector (1) according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ at least one of said conductors (5) is drawn in a loop, which extends towards ~~the a~~ proximal end of the male connector (1) before going back to ~~the a~~ distal end of ~~the a~~ respective conductive member (4), where said conductor (5) is connected.

12. (currently amended) The male connector (1) according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the core wire (3) is provided with a layer of insulating material (12).

13. (currently amended) The male connector (1) according to claim 12, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the insulating material (12) ~~consists of~~ comprises ceramic particles in a polymer matrix.

14. (currently amended) The male connector (1) according to claim 12, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the insulating material (12) ~~consists of~~ comprises a metal oxidized to ceramic state.

15. (currently amended) The male connector (1) according to claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the core wire (3) is made of titanium, the surface of which is oxidized to titanium dioxide.

16. (currently amended) The male connector (1) according to claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the core wire (3) is made of a metal having a coating of aluminum, which is oxidized to Al_2O_3 .

17. (currently amended) The male connector (1) according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the core wire (3) is made of an insulating material.

18. (currently amended) The male connector (1) according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the conductors (5) are provided with a layer of insulating material (13).

19. (currently amended) The male connector (1) according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the core wire (3) in the male connector (1) is separate from the core wire in the guide wire (2).

20. (currently amended) The male connector (1) according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the core wire (3) in the male connector (1) is an extension of the core wire in the guide wire (2).

21. (currently amended) The male connector (1) according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least two points on the mantle surface of the core wire (3) are in contact with the inner surface of the conductive members 4, said points having such positions that the core wire (3) is a radially self-positioning core wire (3).

22. (new) The male connector (1) according to claim 2, wherein the core wire (3) is made of titanium, the surface of which is oxidized to titanium dioxide.